Exploration of Oil

282. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA:
SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any appraisal of the latest discovery of oil has been made;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether more oil has been struck in Barmer district of Rajasthan recently;

(d) if so, the details of the development plan proposed to explore more oil in Barmer district of Rajasthan; and

(e) the other potential fields in the new northern basin?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (e) In District Barmer in the State of Rajasthan, 3 oil discoveries have been made in 2004 in the block, RJ-ON-90/1 by Cairn Energy India Pty. Limited, U.K. Two of the discoveries, namely Mangla and NA have already been appraised. The Appraisal of the discoveries is taken by integrating the available geo-scientific data and acquiring additional data, if required, which is an ongoing process. In addition, 5 other oil discoveries already made in the block are Guda #2, Sraswati, Rageshwari, Kameshwari and Greater Rageshwari are being appraised. The commerciality of a discovery is determined after appraisal, and the development plan is made thereafter. In the case of discoveries made by Cairn Energy India Pty. Limited, these activities are being carried out in accordance with the provisions of the production Sharing Contract for the block.